

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2018

LIVING GOD'S WORD

The Church is the new Israel, called to attract all people to the Lord. We must be “the place where the child” is found today (Matthew 2:9). God’s glory shines through the Church and, despite our many flaws, we are called to become the “place” where everyone can find the Lord and “[do] him homage” (2:11).

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK JANUARY 8, 2018

Monday, January 8, Baptism of the Lord
8:15AM Rev. Donald J. Lenzini
Tuesday, January 9
8:15AM Ron Pechacek by Roger & Ruth Petrowske
Wednesday, January 10
10:30AM Arthur Postman by Roger & Ruth Petrowske
Thursday, January 11
NO MASS
Friday, January 12
8:15AM Special Intention
Saturday, January 13, St. Hilary
5PM Special Intention
Sunday, January 14
9AM For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK JAN. 7 THRU JAN. 14

Sunday	9AM Mass PSR Class after 9AM Mass till 11:15AM
Monday	8:15AM Mass 11AM – 1PM K of C Luncheon Mostacolli / Fried Chicken 6PM PTO Meeting in Library
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 5-8)
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs
Thursday	Father Gene’s Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass (Grade 5 & 6 Liturgy) 1:30PM Dismissal-BUS SERVICE 4:30PM K of C Fish Fry
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: What are the major attractions in your area? Are they natural wonders, spectacular buildings, engaging activities, powerful people, or works of art? We expect people to stream to see rock stars and queens, the Eiffel Tower and the Grand Canyon. In today’s scriptures, however, we see “tourists” attracted to two very lowly and humble “sights”. Jerusalem was a sorry sight when the scripture from Isaiah was written. The prophet’s vision must have seemed impossible to those who heard this message. And yet, today Jerusalem is a major tourist attraction. We also know that through the Jews many other people – Christians and Muslims – have been attracted to the one Lord. Jesus himself must have seemed very weak and insignificant in comparison to the rich and powerful King Herod, and later on compared to the priests and Pharisees. Yet, even from his birth, people streamed to him. Like the “tourists” in today’s Gospel, people saw something in him that led them to worship and serve the Lord. And through him they came to understand what God intended for their life journeys.

SERVERS SCHEDULE for Jan. 13 & 14: 5PM, Jack Heffernan, Carson Dunn; 9AM, Maison Shemonic, Luke Miller, Grace Welborn

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Reflect on the three gifts that the magi gave to the Child: the gold symbolizing his kingship over all creation, the frankincense his dignity as Son of God, and the myrrh his suffering and death by which he would redeem the world.

TITHE WEEK OF DECEMBER 31, 2018

Mary Help of Christians: \$6,489.00
\$870.00 Improvement Fund; \$700.00 Christmas;
\$453.00 Solemnity of Mary; \$20.00 Cemetery;
\$3.00 Child Env.; \$10.00 Donation

WEEKLY Budge Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,936.80

Fiscal Year Week: 27

YTD Actual Giving \$187,293.50

YTD Budget Need: \$189,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (1,706.50)

YTD Weekly: (\$63.21)

K OF C FISH FRY Friday, Jan. 12, from 4:30-7PM. This week’s fish fry will benefit the Food Pantry. On Jan. 19 the fish fry will be for the K of C Club.

PRE CANA DAY: St. Francis Xavier Parish in Carbondale will be presenting a Pre Cana Day on Saturday, Jan. 20. Visit www.stfxcarbondale.org/PreCana to download the registration form. Fill it out and mail it in with the \$40 registration fee. Last day to register is Jan. 16.

OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS: On Saturday, Jan. 20, from 10AM-Noon Fr. John Mark Etensohn, O.M.I. will present *An Adult Understanding of the Four Last Things: Heaven, Hell, Judgment and Purgatory*. Cost is \$20. In the words of St. Paul how might “the God who began a good work in you continue to bring it to completion?” As adults we can search the Scriptures, the richness of our Catholic Tradition, and our understanding of the world for clues as to what we call the last things: death, heaven, hell, judgment, purgatory. To register or for more information, call 618-394-6270 or go to snows.org/programs.

BUENA VISTA NATIONAL BANK is sponsoring a day trip to St. Louis on Wednesday, March 14, to view the Orchid Show at the Botanical Garden. After lunching at Westport Plaza, the group will attend the 2PM showing of *Menopause The Musical*. Contact Amber at 618-826-2331 ext. 108 to register or for more information.

9 DAYS OF LIFE: Prayer, Penance, and Pilgrimage – 9 Days for Life is a focused period (January 18-26, 2018) of prayer, penance, and pilgrimage marking the anniversary of Roe v. Wade (the Supreme Court case which legalized abortion during all 9 months of pregnancy). Since that tragic decision, more than 57 million children’s lives have been lost to abortion, and many suffer that loss – often in silence. Go to www.usccb.org to find ways you can participate in the 9 Days for Life. By our prayers, by our actions, by the way we treat people, we help to shape the world in which we live. Our prayers matter. Our sacrifices make a difference.

COMING AND GOING: They are alien visitors, Magi from the east, who seek out Jesus, the newborn king. They had “visas” from King Herod because he urged them on the journey. The story is about Jew and Gentile. About us and them. About coheirs and copartners, to use Saint Paul’s language. All members of the same body in Christ Jesus. All sharing the one mystery, the one grace. How do I help people come to Jesus? What gifts do I have? What treasures can I give? How will I treat the alien?